

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Agriculture

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers

3b. GSA Committee No.

72334

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

12/13/2016

6. Expected Renewal Date

12/13/2018

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

Not Applicable

8c. Actual Term Date

Not Applicable

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Section 14008 of the Food Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Pub. L. 110-246, 122 Stat. 1651.

13. Effective Date

03/03/1905

14. Committee Type

Continuing No

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee National Policy Issue Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open Meetings and Dates 0 17b. Closed Meetings and Dates 0 17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates 0 17d. Total Meetings and Dates 0

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$12,785.00	\$20,000.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$25,000.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other (rents, user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$630.00	\$30,000.00

18d. Total \$13,415.00 \$80,000.00

19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE) 0.11 0.20

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The purposes of the Committee are to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on the administration of outreach and assistance for the Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Competitive Grants Program (2501 Program); and additional ways USDA can continue building an inclusive future with targeted outreach and assistance to minority farmers and ranchers; and way to increase participation of these sectors in USDA programs.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Committee is composed of 15 members and includes: not less than four socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers; not less than two representatives of nonprofit organizations with a history of working with socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers; not less than two civil rights professionals; and not less than two representatives of institutions of higher education with demonstrated experience working with socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers. Committee members serve a two-year term.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The estimated number of meetings per year are four (two face-to-face and two virtual meetings).

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

It is in the public interest for the Committee to remain active because socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers have historically not had equal access to USDA programs, and the Committee has the opportunity to facilitate an exchange of views and information between socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and USDA. It is anticipated that this will result in increased participation by socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in USDA programs, and contribute to the effectiveness of those programs. This Committee also builds upon the Department's cultural transformation initiatives.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A

21. Remarks

The committee works in the interest of the public to ensure socially disadvantaged farmers have equal access to USDA programs. Cost associated with the committee for

federal staff administration, solicitation and outreach. No meetings held in FY18. Cost associated to the committee is for federal staff support to manage program and recruitment.

Designated Federal Officer

Kenya B. Nicholas Designated Federal Officer

Narrative Description

The purposes of the Committee are to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on the administration of the Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Competitive Grants Program (2501 Program), to advise the Secretary on how to increase participation of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in USDA programs, and to advise the Secretary about civil rights activities at USDA as such activities affect USDA programs.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

N/A

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
Over \$10,000,000
Cost Savings Other

☐
☐
☐
☐

Cost Savings Comments

Cost impacts are not quantifiable. Costs associated with the committee requirements but no meetings held in FY2018.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

28

Number of Recommendations Comments

There were no recommendations from the committee in 2018.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

50%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

No recommendations were recommended or implemented in FY2018 but historically this has been about 50 percent.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

18%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

N/A

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

A response by the Department was sent to the committee chair thanking the committee for their work. No specific response to the prior recommendations were prepared.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Most prior year's recommendations were implemented into current policies.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

N/A

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

In addition to Federal Register notices, emails, flyers (bilingual) and press releases are issued to notify the public of meetings and other information regarding the Committee.